

Claims

The invention claimed is:

1. A method for transmitting messages in a multinode data processing environment, said method comprising the steps of:

placing messages, to be sent from at least one application, in a message queue along with an identifier for the transmitting application;

selecting a number of messages to be sent based upon current indications of network transmission capacity;

sending said selected messages;

receiving acknowledgments that said sent messages have arrived; and

modifying the number of messages to be sent based upon the number of acknowledgments received in comparison to the number of messages sent as used an indication of current network capacity.

2. The method of claim 1 further including modifying the time interval used to determine when a message is to be retransmitted following lack of an acknowledgment.

3. The method of claim 1 in which the number of messages to be sent is increased when the number of acknowledgments received exceeds a predetermined value.

4. The method of claim 1 in which the number of messages to be sent is decreased when the number of acknowledgments received falls below a predetermined value.

5. The method of claim 1 in which the time interval used to determine when a message is to be retransmitted following lack of an acknowledgment is decreased when the number of acknowledgments received exceeds a predetermined value.

6. The method of claim 1 in which the time interval used to determine when a message is to be retransmitted following lack of an acknowledgment is increased when the number of acknowledgments received exceeds a predetermined value.

7. A multinode data processing system comprising:

at least three nodes;

an internode communication link connecting said at least three nodes;

a message queue within at least one of said nodes; and

programming on said at least one node for transmitting messages from said queue and for monitoring transmission acknowledgments from others of said nodes so as to adjust a transmission retry interval and a parameter which determines the maximum number of messages to be transmitted from said queue.